

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-05 STR-04 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 (ISO) R

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DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:JWSWIHART:JKB

APPROVED BY EUR/WE - REBARBOUR

EB/CSB/CD - WRAU (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL NAPLES IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, IT

SUBJECT: UNITED BRANDS

1. UNITED BRANDS LOCAL REP (FORMER AMBASSADOR ROBERT CORRIGAN) HAS INFORMED DEPT THAT FOR UNKNOWN REASONS ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (MFT) HAS WITHHELD APPROVAL OF IMPORT PERMIT FOR 1100 TONS OF BANANAS BEING OFFLOADED FROM THE SS LION, PRESENTLY BERTHED AT NAPLES. CARGO IS VALUED AT WELL OVER \$100,000 AND IS IN IMMINENT DANGER OF SPOILING. UB HAS PROTESTED THROUGH ITALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AS WELL AS THROUGH COMPANY'S REPS IN ITALY, SO FAR TO NO AVAIL. ACCORDING TO COMPANY SOURCES, REASON FOR MFT'S ACTION PROBABLY RELATED TO PAST ALLEGA-

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TIONS OF BRIBERY OF ITALIAN OFFICIALS ON THE PART OF UB TO OBTAIN FAVORABLE IMPORT TREATMENT.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH APPROPRIATE
GOI OFFICIALS AND INQUIRE AS TO THE SPECIFIC REASONS IN
THIS CASE FOR THE MFT DENIAL.

3. FYI: NEW MANAGEMENT AT UNITED BRANDS HAS BEEN MAKING
A BIG EFFORT TO CLEAN UP ITS OPERATIONS ABROAD AND IMPROVE
ITS IMAGE. END FYI. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FRUIT, IMPORT LICENSES, BANANAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: JWSWIHART:JKB
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Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751037/aaaabgpv.tel
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Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
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06 JUL 2006

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